October 3

2 Corinthians 12:5-10

Good Weakness

5 Of such an one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities.
6 For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear, lest

any man should think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me.
7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations,

there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it

might depart
from me.
9 And he said unto
me, My grace is
sufficient for thee:
for my strength is
made perfect in
weakness. Most
gladly therefore
will I rather glory
in my infirmities,

that the power of
Christ may rest
upon me.
10 Therefore I
take pleasure
in infirmities,
in reproaches,
in necessities,
in persecutions,
in distresses
for Christ's sake:

for when I am
weak, then am
I strong.

Good Weakness

Paul writes:
I'm not carrying on about myself. It's just that I'm glad about my "infirmities". I'm trying to hold back some of what I'm feeling so you won't think

I’m trying to be
super-spiritual
or something
that I’m not.

So I wouldn’t get
too high-minded
due to having
received such
great revelation
and such

deeply spiritual knowledge, I was also given "a thorn in the flesh". That is a messenger of Satan used by God for the purpose keeping me humble.

I asked the Lord

three times to cause this particular issue (unspecified) to stop, but he told me this:
My grace is what you need. My strength is made known when you're

weak.

So, I'll
appreciate
frailties and
imperfections.
I'm actually
excited about
my shortcomings
and personal
and physical

weaknesses.
I really prefer
such conditions
so that the power
of Christ may
remain on me.

With this
understanding,
“I take pleasure
in infirmities,

in reproaches,
in necessities,
in persecutions,
in distresses
for Christ's sake"
because it's when
I'm weak that
I'm actually
stronger than
ever.

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

"Pleasure in infirmities..."! Seriously?

Had Paul slipped into some type of

mental obscurity?

Had he, at the other extreme, soared to godly spiritual enlightenment?

Is there really a "***good*** weakness"?

ONE A DAY
SCRIPTURE
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PRAYER